

SBARA Thoughts, Albert our President!

After dropping off my daughter at Reed College in Portland Oregon, we spent a night at Dan (N6WN) and Rita's (KI6SSQ) home in Medford on our way back to Union City. Chatting about our lives, retirement, relocation, among other things, I realized that it is this sense of community that binds our group together. That's what we get as HAM—especially members of SBARA—a sense of community and family wherever we go.

Zucchini Festival (August 17 and 18)

Thank you to everyone who volunteered to be part of this years' Zucchini Festival Communication Support team. Your participation not only helps the community but also brings in financial benefit to our club. Thanks to all of you, we now can get more "toys" to test out.

The most interesting part of being communication support is that you never know what to expect. Our team was dispatched with the task of searching for a missing 80+ year-old woman, until ten minutes later, when we were told to look for an 80+ year-old man instead. Another incident occurred when someone called 911 inside the park and did not disclose a location. Once his location was found, it was our team that directed the Fire Truck and Ambulance to the correct gate. As a token of thanks for all your hard work, we will be raffling off a GoPro Hero camera at the next membership meeting. For each shift worked, one ticket will be entered into the drawing. See you on September 13 for the drawing and let the fun continue!

Board of Directors Appreciation Dinner (August 23)

A "Thank you" is due to the board members who took time to join the Board of Directors Appreciation Dinner. Despite the hour long wait, the dinner at Market Boiler Restaurant was plenty of fun. During the Board of Directors' meeting, we talked about past speakers who presented at our meetings, interest groups, mentorships, new members, and planning new activities for the future. We chatted, ate, drank, and showed appreciation for each other's support during the year.

If you are not currently a member of the board, we encourage you to consider becoming a member. It is the ideas, time, commitment, and talent of people like you that make this club possible.

Upcoming Elections

Elections will be carried out in our November meeting. We have begun the nomination process and are taking nominations from the floor during our September and October meetings. Open positions include: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Membership Chair.

For those who are interested, please contact a member on the Board of Directors.

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Upcoming Major Event

West Coast ARRL Conven-



SBARA 2013 Zucchini Festival Support a Big Success

Again this year there was a wonderful response from our membership to the board's request for volunteers to work the Hayward Zucchini Festival. This event is the only fundraiser for the year. The members and friends who volunteered helped raise approximately \$1300 for SBARA.

How did it go? On Saturday, August 17th we had 18 volunteers participate in communications support covering all the shifts. On Sunday August 18th we had 14 volunteers working all the shifts.

There was one volunteer, Yolanda La, a high school senior from Hayward, who while looking on the internet for opportunities to volunteer to gain service points for college admission found the SBARA web page and signed up for shifts on Saturday and Sunday.

The Zucchini Festival is a fun event and if you volunteer next year you will be give up to four complementary entrance tickets for family and friends to also attend.

Thanks from the SBARA Board of Directors to all the volunteers who made this fundraiser a big success.

Did You Know?

New members may not realize that there are 'perks' for participating on the SBARA board. One way SBARA thanks the leadership team is by having a Board of Director appreciation dinner at a local restaurant. The board gathers and enjoys a nice meal paid for by SBARA thanking each member for their help running the club for the year. Consider joining the board as a Member at Large. There are no specific duties for this board position and you will learn what it means to be on the board without having any specific responsibilities. Your Ideas and suggestions are all you will be asked to provide. Now that sounds easy doesn't it? Don't forget you will be invited to the appreciation dinner too!

SBARA Board of Directors Elections November 8, 2013

The nominations for elected board positions are now open for the 2014 leadership team. The elected positions are President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. In addition there are a number of appointed positions such as meeting program facilitator, new member facilitator, meeting refreshments coordinator and a number of appointed Members at Large positions for people who want to be on the board to become familiar on how the club operates. Amateur Radio is a great hobby and SBARA is a good way to further your enjoyment in the hobby. Consider helping out in one of the many ways mentioned above.



Hurricane Electric Internet Services

Internet Backbone and Collocation Provider



SBARA Living History

33 Years Ago—SBARA Groundplane

Visitors

SBARA was pleased to welcome 2 DX visitors to the March meeting. Joe Tateno, JF1WRS, from Tokyo Japan – guest of Tats, W6IMP, and Jan Carlson, SM5SGU, an exchange student from Sweden. Jan is living with the Steve Barnett family of Fremont. Jan is a senior at Newark Memorial High. It was a pleasure to have them at our meeting.

Plaudits

Much thanks to Rusty Epps, W6OAT for the very informative talk regarding the radio sport of “contesting”. We thought it was an excellent presentation and hope to have him back again. Thanks for coming Rusty.

RFI Senate Bill

There has recently been introduced in the Senate by Senator Barry Goldwater K7UGA, a RFI bill (S-864) requiring manufactures to build better front ends and RFI suppression into their TV sets and HI-FI gear. PLEASE WRITE OUR SENATORS AND REPRESENTATIVES IN THE HOUSE TO ENCOURAGE THEM TO GIVE THEIR SUPPORT TO THE BILL. Listed below are the names and addresses to write to them.

Senators:

Alan Cranston (D) 1 Hallidie Plaza, San Francisco, CA 94102 Phone (213) 824-7641.

S.I. Hayakawa (R) 1390 Market Street, Suite 810, San Francisco, CA 94102 Phone (415) 556-8686

Representatives:

Don Edwards (D) 1625 The Alameda, Room 709, San Jose, CA 95126 Phone (408) 292-0143

This is a handy list to keep for anytime you may want to write your Congressmen



How do you purify water? Here are some quick tips for water purifying in wilderness survival situations.

- 1) Unlike snow, ice should be purified before drinking. This is because of the potentially dangerous contaminants frozen inside. (Watch what the snow is falling in or on, though)
- 2) Turbid (murky) water has a drastic impact on the effectiveness of water purifying tablets. Your water must be clear and free of floating debris for water purifying tablets, or any other chemical treatment, to work. Filter the water before applying the chemical.
- 3) The same goes for using sunlight to purify water. Murky water contains particles that will block UVA sunlight from disinfecting. Clear water is best.
- 4) A sock, a bandana and a shirt are just a few quick makeshift water filters to use in a pinch.
- 5) Sycamore trees are a great indicator that water is nearby. Sycamores usually grow near water. Get to know how to identify their distinctive bark.
- 6) There are three kinds of biological contaminants to watch for in water: protozoan cysts (such as Giardia and Cryptosporidium), bacteria and viruses. Make sure any commercial product you buy, such as a water purifying straw, is capable of handling all three.
- 7) Keeping a pot of water stable over a fire can be tricky sometimes. Instead of managing a balancing act, heat rocks in the fire. Place the hot rocks in the water. This will boil the water. Don't place the rocks back in the fire for reheating, since doing so could drown the fire.
- 8) Sap from non-poisonous trees is drinkable and does not need to be purified. In a pinch, cut a V-shaped sap wedge a half-inch into the tree. The sap will seep to the bottom of the V. Placing a leaf at this intersection will act as a wick, and with a little finesse the sap will drip from the tip of the leaf into a container below.
- 9) When tapping a vine for water, make a slice in the vine about 5 to 6 feet above where you've cut it off. This helps to speed the flow. The cut acts as a breather valve, similar to one in a gas can.
- 10) After all that water purifying, don't chug your water! Your kidneys can only process 8 fluid ounces (237ml) of water every 15 minutes. Pace yourself when rehydrating. Keeping with this schedule ensures the most efficient use of your precious water.



The Human Brain Project

Computers have come a long way since the early days. Modern computers can perform billions of calculations per second and store massive amounts of information. However, when it comes to certain tasks, computers still pale in comparison to the human brain. While even older computers could far surpass any human at mathematics, anyone who has used Siri, the voice assistant on the Apple iPhones, knows that computers often fail both at understanding human speech and interpreting that speech correctly. Siri, among other systems, is one of the most advanced examples of the field of Artificial Intelligence, or the effort to create computer systems that mimic the intelligence of humans.

While Artificial Intelligence, or AI, is still a developing field, massive progress has been made. The computer known as *Deep Blue* can make decisions about the best chess moves and has beaten top humans. Multiple universities have developed cars that can, through various sensors, observe and respond to the world around them in order to automatically drive themselves. An IBM supercomputer called *Watson* competed against Jeopardy champions and won, representing one of the most sophisticated tasks an AI has ever taken on to date. Even so, there are limitations. All these tasks have relatively narrow rules for the computers to follow. To sum it up, even though the cars may drive themselves, they do not make the decisions about where to go.

However, a new project seeks to change all that. The Human Brain Project aims to develop current AI technologies to the level where they can simulate a human brain inside a massive supercomputer within the next ten years. Dubbed “Cern for the brain” due to its massive scope and budget (1.6 billion), the project will pair together neuroscientists and computer experts from across the globe to build, piece by piece, a virtual reconstruction of the brain that can behave like a real one. Recently, a team in Switzerland made some initial steps, developing a chip that mimics the way human brains are structured, using a changeable network of small connections rather than more conventional computer architecture.

While the project still has a long way to go, scientists are hopeful that this massive international effort can bring forth great strides in our computing technology and help to unlock new secrets of the human brain.

You can read more about the Human Brain Project at www.humanbrainproject.eu

Get Involved with SBARA...

...come to a monthly meeting

Our regular meetings take place the second Friday of at 7pm our meeting social begins with the monthly meeting starting at 7:30pm. Everyone is welcome to attend, regardless of whether you are a member. Bring a friend! Or if you're thinking about becoming a ham, come and learn about the hobby!



Exam sessions are conducted by SBARA VE volunteers working under the direction of the FCC. There is a charge for taking the exam. The exam fee is set by the Volunteer Exam Coordinator. SBARA's Fee is \$15.00

SBARA VE Testing Schedule

Exams will be administered at Hurricane Electric, 48233 Warm Springs Blvd., Fremont. Contact: Greg Miller, wy6p at arrl dot net for info. \$15 fee, bring a photo ID. Walk-ins allowed.

Tri-City VE Session Dates 2013

Sat Sep 14, 2013, 9:00 am – 11:30 am

Tue Oct 8, 2013, 6:30 pm – 9:00 pm

Sat Nov 9, 2013, 9:00 am – 11:30 am

Tue Dec 10, 2013, 6:30 pm – 9:00pm



South Bay Amateur Radio Club conducts FCC authorized tests for Technician, General, and Extra class licenses every month on the 2nd Saturday at Hurricane Electric 48233 Warm Springs Boulevard Fremont, CA. 9453. Hurricane Electric Doors open at 8:45 AM. We begin testing about 9:00 AM. Enter through the main building entrance and then go to up the stairs to the second floor or use the elevator. Then go to the right and look for the Amateur Radio testing exam signs. We do ask that you park your car in the main parking lot not directly in front of the Main doors to Hurricane Electric.

Our next test session will be held Saturday September 14, 2013 (9:00 AM to 11:00 AM).

Very important: Please remember to bring the following items with you to any exam session: The appropriate fee - cash only (currently \$15) for the test. Please bring your picture ID, the original and a copy of your Amateur Radio license (if licensed), and calculator if you would like to use one (all memories must be cleared). It is very important to have your Social Security Number, or if you have been issued an FRN (Federal Registration Number) from the FCC, please use that in place of your SSN because without either your SSN or FRN, the FCC will not process your application. If you are upgrading please bring all CSCE's and a copy showing proof of recent passed exam if not already processed by the FCC.

If you have any Questions regarding our test session or Questions about upgrading, please contact me - via email at: wy6p at arrl dot net

Again - The test fee is still \$15.00 (cash only -- no credit cards or checks).
73's AL – Greg WY6P

SBARA Weekly Nets—Voice and CW Action!!

The SBARA Net Meets....

Every Monday night at 7:30 pm on the WA6PWW (currently N6IMS) repeater, 147.015 MHz, positive offset, PL (if enabled) 103.5 Hz.

projects you're working on and so on. It's a chat net.

We need net control operators. If you'd like to be net control, let us know during the next net.

Bernhard AE6YN

Topics are club related things, —... —

The Slow CW Net Meets....

Every Thursday and Sunday night at 7:30 pm, Thursday on 144.230 MHz
Sunday on 7.057MHz +/- 3 kHz

not just an FM) radio in order to follow.

The net has now its own e-mail address. Please contact us here:

groups.com>

—... —

Bernhard AE6YN

You need an “all mode” (i.e.

“SF Bay CW Enthusiasts” <sf-bay-cw-enthusiasts at google-

Repeater Information

WA6PWW— 147.015 + 600Khz, PL 103.5

WA6PWW—223.900— 500Khz, PL 107.2

WA6PWW—442.600 +5Mhz,

PL107.2

K6AIR—146.940—600Khz, PL 123.0

K6AIR—441.525 +5Mhz, PL 123.0

ARES Net Meeting—Tuesday Evenings @ 7:30pm on 147.015+600Khz, PL 103.5

Helpful Amateur Radio Web Page Links

www.sbara.org

www.arrl.org

www.qrz.com

www.eham.net

www.twit.tv/hn

Upcoming SBARA Events

SBARA - Groundplane

The Groundplane is published monthly by the South Bay Amateur Radio Association. Articles and letters are always welcome. The normal deadline for material is the 20th day of each month for the next month's news-letter. Articles can be sent by email to hamradio at Comcast dot net or via U.S. Mail. Contact the Editor for details and submission guidelines.



Meeting September 13th, at 7:30pm
Hurricane Electric, Fremont

Pre-Meeting Dinner 6pm at Ho Chow located at 47966 Warm Springs Blvd. Fremont

Amateur License Exams

ARRL VEC– September 14th @ 9:30 am at Hurricane Electric – 48233 Warm Springs Blvd. Fremont.

Testing? Contact: Greg Miller, wy6p at arrl dot net for info. \$15 fee.

South Bay Amateur Radio Association — SBARA
The Ground Plane — KU6S
<http://www.sbara.org>
P.O. Box 8401
Fremont, Ca.

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE